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THE FAIRFONTE-WEST VIRGINIAN

GEORGE PITKIN
Author of "The Good Old Days."

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MARTIN VAN BUREN.

Martin Van Buren was born December 5, 1782, and became a politician shortly afterwards. As this would indicate, he was a New Yorker. He came from old Dutch stock and was distinguished by the firm and uncompromising manner in which he made up his mind with glue and steel rivets on all questions.

Van Buren set out for the presidency at early age and advanced step by step from the State senate and State attorney generalship to the United States Senate, the governorship of New York, the secretaryship of State, and the vice presidency. In those days vice presidents were chosen for their mental dimensions and after Van Buren had held firmly to his seat during Jackson's cyclonic last term he was elected president.

This was a sad joke on Van Buren, because Jackson had spent his last four years compiling and arranging the greatest panic the young country had had. This panic burst soon after Van Buren took office and he spent four worried and toilful years hustling for money to pay for stove coal for the national capitol and shoestrings for the army. He wrestled with a voracious deficit for four years in a state-

treasury minister, and in a record the people voted him out of office with great enthusiasm in 1848.

STATE NEWS

WOMAN DEAD.
CLARKSBURG—Mrs. James Smith, aged 26 years, daughter of Samuel W. Smith, died at the home of her mother, Mrs. John J. Trumbull, of Northfield, Monday morning at 8 o'clock after a short illness of pneumonia fever.

The deceased woman survived her two deceased older sisters. The daughters are Misses John J. and Mary Trumbull, of Northfield. The sons are John and Joseph Trumbull, and John and Mary of Northfield.

PADDOCK INJURED.

MONROEVILLE—El C. Thielke, a 32-year-old building was brought to the Glendale Hospital on a special train. He had been knocked from his train at Jacksontown on the Short Line and probably fatally injured. Being in an unconscious condition for several hours the physicians considered it necessary to have him removed to a hospital immediately.

The special train was immediately decided upon and railroad officials ordered an engine and coach to the scene. The injured man was placed aboard and time scheduled were laid aside for the race with death.

POPULATION DECREASING.

MONDENVILLE—According to the monthly statement of Warden M. L. Brown to Governor Glasscock, the population of the State of West Virginia shows a decrease of 35 during the month of November as compared with October. The population on November 1st was 1,119 and on November 30th, 1,075.

During the month twenty-two prisoners were received, 17 of whom were State prisoners and five military prisoners as a result of the strike on Cabin creek and military law being declared. During the month 57 prisoners were discharged; 15 went out on parole, three on pardons, three as witnesses and one death. The terms of 35 expired.

HARDWARE IN STOMACH.

MOOREFIELD—William A. Allen purchased a beef here last week from the stomach of which he took two keys, one coat, one collar button, one washer, one 22 shell, 17 nails, eight small nuts and two small rocks.

STORY DELAYED.

CHARLESTON—The serious illness of Prof. Virgil A. Lewis, at his home in Mason county has stopped the progress of the preparations which was being made for the completion of the proposed Fifty Year Book of this State—to be completed in time for the semi-centennial celebration at Wheeling in June, 1912.

DIED FROM DIPHTHERIA.

GRAFTON—Loretta Elizabeth Weston, the little daughter of Mr. and Mrs. D. R. Wilson, of near Rivesville, died Monday afternoon after an illness of diphtheria, at the home of her parents, at the age of 18 months. The funeral will take place on Wednesday afternoon at 2:30 o'clock from the residence, with Rev. Mondy Edwards, pastor of the Christian church officiating, and the interment will be made in Blue mound cemetery.

EXTRA SESSION.

CHARLESTON—The West Virginia legislature will be convened in extraordinary session Thursday, January 2, 1912. The regular session would begin on January 8. Governor Glasscock to-day announced that he would have one message, and that he would ask the legislature to pass a county salary law.

WILL RECOVER.

WHEELING—H. C. Tiegel, the Baltimore and Ohio brakeman who was knocked from his train near Jacksontown and badly injured, is resting very nicely at the Glendale hospital, where he was rushed on a special train shortly after the accident. It is now thought that he will recover.

PRIMINENT MAN DEAD.

CHARLESTON—Overload of blood to the heart was the cause of the death of Major J. Colman Alderson here yesterday. He had complained of feeling bad for several days.

Major Alderson was born at Locust Grove, Virginia, October 20, 1828, but came to Greenbrier county when the civil war broke out and fought on the side of the confederacy.

He died Dec. 12, 1864, he was captured by the Union forces and imprisoned in Camp Chase, Ohio.

After the war Major Alderson engaged in the coal, timber and real estate business in the southern part of West Virginia. He founded the towns of Williamson and Bell Point. He was one of the pioneers of Kanawha county, following the war.

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